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PENNSYLVANIA

# DEFENSE COUNCIL NEWS

ISSUED BY THE STATE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

July 23, 1943



Harrisburg, Pa.

Vol. 2, No. 13

## Enlarged Salvage Committee Will Map Fall Program

Pennsylvania's salvage plans for the last five months of 1943 will be charted on Tuesday, July 27, at a meeting of the newly-enlarged Advisory Salvage Committee of the SCD.

By action of the SCD, the committee was expanded this month from 17 members to 45, and a recommendation was made that local and county committees be similarly strengthened. The new State members are:

Judge William G. Barthold, Bethlehem; R. N. Benjamin, New Cumberland; Anna Brancato, H. C. Burrichter, George W. Conover and Howard Medholdt, all of Philadelphia; Ben Cohen, Wilkes-Barre; J. W. Cooper, Harrisburg; Glenn Goe, Mrs. John J. Kane and E. N. Zeigler, all of Pittsburgh; Mrs. George R. Hemphill, Beaver Falls.

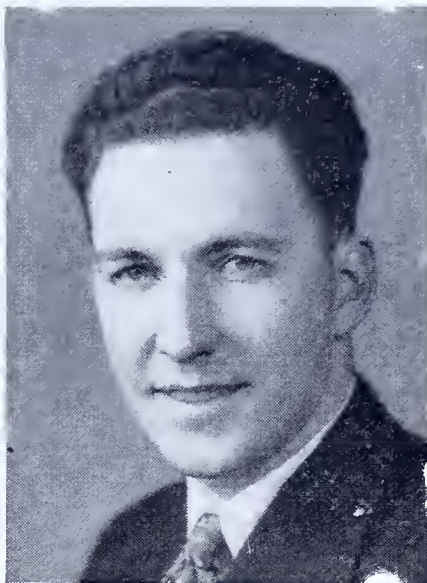
Judge Howard W. Hughes, Washington; Mrs. George R. Lamade, Williamsport; Samuel S. Lewis, York; Mrs. Frank P. McCluskey, Easton; Msgr. C. A. McHugh, Mount Pocono; Jacob H. Mays, Weiser Park; Mrs. Leo C. Mundy, Wilkes-Barre.

Mrs. D. Ray Murdock, Greensburg; Mrs. Janet Rippmen, Millerstown; Capt. Rodger W. Rowland, New Castle; G. M. Stull, Chester; Mrs. George B. Taylor, Erie; W. Purvis Taylor, Harrisburg; Charles N. Thompson, Buck Hill Falls; Mrs. John Howell Williams, Kingston; J. H. Zerbey, Jr., Pottsville.

Total collections by Salvage Committees of Pennsylvania from Jan. 1 to May 31 were announced by the State Committee as follows: 245,309 tons scrap metal; 9,092 tons tin cans; 3,279,380 pounds fats; and 3,198,960 pairs hosiery.

While these totals kept Pennsylvania in the forefront, a warning was given by Colley S. Baker, Salvage Committee secretary, that scrap quotas for the last half of the year will probably be even higher than for the first half.

Special praise was given to Warren County Salvage Committee, headed by W. T. Corbett, in a bulletin issued by Mr. Baker. Citing the county's per capita scrap metal average of 177 pounds for the first half of 1943, and its other totals, Mr. Baker declared "this is the best all-around salvage job being done today in Pennsylvania."



J. C. Lester Bryant

## NEW WARDEN WILL HANDLE TWO POSTS

The duties of Chief Air Raid Warden of the State and Regional Representative in Region 3 were consolidated this month when J. C. Lester Bryant, of Washington, Pa., was named to both posts.

Bryant, who was commander of the CDC in his home county and closely identified with Civilian Defense there from the start, will make his headquarters in Harrisburg.

As Chief Warden he succeeds Col. Lynn G. Adams, now Chief of Protective Services, and as the regional man for Dauphin, Lebanon, Franklin, Adams, York, Cumberland, Lancaster, Perry, Mifflin, and Juniata counties he replaces Richard A. Mehring, now in the armed forces.

Bryant recently was named by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Washington as "the outstanding young man of the year."

"Full speed ahead" was the rule in the Victory Garden Food Conservation program this week as plans were rushed for the opening of community kitchens in Pennsylvania before the Aug.-Sept. canning period.

Three regional conservation chairmen named by the SCD Victory Garden Committee were expediting the work in their

## SEEK BLOOD DONORS

Allegheny County Block Leaders, led by Mrs. S. A. Schreiner, will aim at 100 per cent coverage of homes in a special "Blood Donor Week" solicitation from Aug. 2 to 9.

Auxiliary Police and other "CD" units will assist in the home-to-home canvass and also will sign up as blood donors themselves. The Red Cross is cooperating in the project.

## Region Meetings Aid All Branches

All branches of Civilian Defense are being strengthened by the contacts between State and local leaders at conferences and training schools now underway in Pennsylvania.

Chairmen of non-protective activities have met in four regions at conferences called by Mrs. Worthington Scranton, SCD Commander of Civilian War Services. The meeting places were Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Warren and Philadelphia.

The remaining conference centers and dates are: Scranton, July 29; Allentown, Aug. 3; State College, Aug. 4, and Bedford, Aug. 5. Problems and plans are fully discussed at each gathering.

Meanwhile, a new series of Bomb Reconnaissance Schools, augmenting those held last fall and spring, opened in Ford City July 13 and in Easton July 20, under direction of Army Ordnance officers.

Other bomb schools scheduled are: July 27-28-29, Somerset; Aug. 3-4-5, Scranton; Aug. 10-11-12, Waynesburg; Aug. 17-18-

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## 15-Second Blast Is New All-Clear Signal In State

The inaudible all-clear—a persistent cause of confusion in Pennsylvania air raid drills since last February—gave way this week to a state-wide audible signal of 15 seconds' duration.

Official action putting the new signal into effect was taken by the SCD in the form of an amendment to Rule 4, after Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord, head of the Third Service Command, had turned the matter over to the states.

Revoking the previous specifications for all-clear in Rule 4, the SCD substituted the following new paragraph:

"(5) **ALL CLEAR SIGNAL.** This signal is a public audible signal indicating all-clear in the district so warned. The signal may be given by sirens, horns or whistles except in those cases where the Executive Director, representing the State Council of Defense, has, upon application of a Council of Defense, approved in writing an alternative method of giving the all-clear signal for the territory served by said Council of Defense. The duration of the audible all-clear signal shall be 15 seconds.

"The all-clear signal shall not be effective or acted upon until the conclusion of the 15-second period."

The latter provision was inserted so that Pennsylvanians would not "jump the gun" and turn on their lights as soon as the first sirens begin to sound following the second "blue" signal. In some cases, this signal might turn out to be a second "red" warning.

In permitting Councils to apply to the Executive Director for an alternative method of giving the all-clear, the SCD is carrying out a stipulation by General Reckord that the all-clear need not be uniform throughout an entire state. However, the uniform signal will be adhered to as widely as possible.

General Reckord's decision giving Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia the option of adopting an audible all-clear

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## Canning Program Is Speeded

"Full speed ahead" was the rule in the Victory Garden Food Conservation program this week as plans were rushed for the opening of community kitchens in Pennsylvania before the Aug.-Sept. canning period.

Three regional conservation chairmen named by the SCD Victory Garden Committee were expediting the work in their

counties. They are: (Eastern) Mrs. Thomas Ross, Doylestown; (Central) Mrs. G. Ira Stott, Philipsburg; and (Western) Mrs. H. M. Aronson, Pittsburgh.

County supervisors are being appointed by the SCD to direct local canning operations. Each supervisor will be assigned one, two or three counties ac-

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## STATE COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

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### 15-SECOND BLAST NEW ALL-CLEAR

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came after a successful try-out in the Philadelphia area. New Jersey and other states in the Second Service Command already have a 15-second all-clear.

While General Reckord indicated that the radio all-clear will be continued, the official signal in Pennsylvania will be the audible one. Radio announcements, instituted by the Army Feb. 17, proved ineffective because Air Raid Wardens and many citizens did not hear them.

### FIRST PENNANT IS AWARDED IN BERKS

South Heidelberg Twp., Berks County, became the first officially-designated V-Community in Pennsylvania when a handsome OCD pennant was presented at a picnic in Wernersville, July 15.

Although York County completed its V-Home drive before Berks, the first pennant was sent to Wernersville because of advance plans made for the picnic.

A supply of pennants for award in these two counties and also in Crawford and Elk is expected to arrive soon. Communities in which 60 per cent or more homes are V-Homes are eligible to display the triangular 3x5 pennants.

### 'SHELTERS' NEEDED

More shelter areas are needed for persons caught on streets, in motor vehicles and in small stores when the air raid signal is sounded, OCD Director Landis declared this week.

Suggestions for setting aside such shelters in relatively safe modern buildings are given in an OCD circular recently issued.

### RESCUE GOAL SET BY PHILADELPHIA

A goal of 10 rescue squads for each of the city's 45 zones has been set by Philadelphia Council of Defense, reports Louis J. Dougherty, Rescue Squad Chief. A five-ton "line truck" loaned by the Bell Telephone Co. is being fitted as a model rescue truck for demonstrations.

Dougherty said there is a great amount of locally-purchased equipment, including rescue trucks, throughout the city. As an example he cited Sector 6, Zone 44, which has \$7,000 of such equipment. If other sectors have comparable amounts, there would be more than \$3,000,000 worth in the city.

### 20 CHILD CENTERS NOW IN OPERATION

Twenty Child Care Centers have been opened in Pennsylvania and 14 others are in the planning stage, Mrs. Benjamin Ludlow, Director of Child Care for the SCD, reported this week.

Of the Centers already opened, 13 are operating on community funds and seven have received Federal aid. A total of 400 volunteers have been trained for Child Care work.

"Child Care Committees have helped to stimulate recreation programs also," Mrs. Ludlow said. "Many new playgrounds have been opened, a variety of adolescent recreation programs have developed through schools, churches and organized agencies, and curfews have been established in many communities."

### TRANSPORTATION OFFICER

The SCD has elected Harold A. Buch, of New Cumberland, as State Transportation Officer, succeeding Frank A. Shimer, who resigned because of other duties.

Warren Myers, of the Department of Highways, was designated as public works representative in the State Control Center, to succeed H. R. Moffitt, resigned.

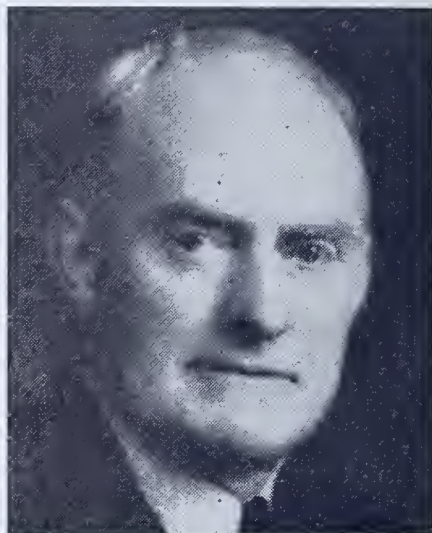
### REGION MEETINGS AID ALL BRANCHES

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19, West Chester; Aug. 23-24, Lewistown; Aug. 25-26-27, Williamsport, and Aug. 30-31, Oil City. All of the schools will be held at night except in Lewistown and Oil City.

A Plant Protection School was held in Allentown this week, concluding a series conducted by Third Civilian Defense Region officials. A similar school scheduled in Williamsport next week has been cancelled.

## Civilian Defense Leaders



J. F. Puderbaugh (left) is Chairman of Clinton County Council of Defense and also Superintendent of Schools in Lock Haven. Art W. Coombs (right) is Chairman of Beaver County Council of Defense and has headed the County Board of Commissioners there for more than 20 years.

## News From Local Councils

**RECREATION:** A directory listing all gymnasiums, parks and other recreational facilities in the York area has been issued by York City-County Council of Defense. . . . In Washington, a survey of recreational preferences is being conducted by block leaders.

**VICTORY GARDENS:** 200 gardeners in Kutztown are registered to compete for prizes at the local fair. . . . Philadelphia is building a city cannery for preserving products from institutional gardens. . . . Air Raid Wardens are registering all gardens in Sunbury. . . . A canning kitchen is open two days each week in Ardmore.

**PROGRAMS:** The second anniversary of its service men's program found Harrisburg-Dauphin County Council of Defense sending 110 young women to Indiantown Gap for a dance. . . . At Spring City, 2500 persons attended the dedication of an honor roll sponsored by the Council of Defense.

**SUMMER CARE:** Swimmers at a pool in Dormont were evacuated to shelters in less than two minutes during a test alert. . . . Special shelter areas have been designated in York for kiddies at the municipal playgrounds.

**HONORED:** Arthur S. Watson has been named CDC commander in Venango County. . . . A salvage citation for the late

Robert P. Habgood, McKean County Salvage Chairman, was presented to his widow.

**SALVAGE:** Fats collections declined 8 per cent in Berks County during June, but still exceeded the quota. . . . Erie, which collected 81 tons of tin cans in June, has built a special loading platform to speed shipments. . . . Three lads in Troy collected a full ton of metal scrap.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** A \$2,000 city appropriation for Sharon Council of Defense has been nearly exhausted, and leaders are seeking new funds. . . . Wilkes-Barre newspapers supported William B. Healey, Luzerne County CDC commander, in a statement seeking more volunteers.

**HERE AND THERE:** 100 women Air Raid Wardens will be recruited in Tarentum. . . . A movie projector has been purchased by Warren County Council of Defense for showing war films. . . . More than 7,000 people attended a July 4 parade and field day sponsored by Civilian Defense in Wilson Boro, Northampton County.

**STEADFAST:** Thirty Auxiliary Firemen who volunteered in Carnegie, Allegheny County, 16 months ago, are still serving as a unit. . . . A Mount Carmel woman, Mrs. Stanley Y. Kale, travelled to Shamokin every day for four weeks to win her cap as a Nurses' Aide.



## Recruiting Starts For Fire Guards

Under the time-table recommended by the OCD, Councils of Defense in target areas of Pennsylvania should now be engaged in transferring Fire Watchers and "surplus" members of other CDC units to the new Fire Guard organization.

The time schedule is given in a bulky OCD publication which was sent to county and city Councils of Defense this month outlining the entire program of promotion for Fire Guards.

July 15 to Aug. 1 was set aside for recruiting transfers, while Aug. 1 to Sept. 15 is reserved for recruiting persons not already members of the CDC, and Sept. 15 is the date set for starting the 16-hour training course.

For the present, Fire Guards are to be organized only in cities that have received four-gallon pump tank extinguishers under the OCD equipment program. A team of three or four members will man these pumps in each city block.

Pennsylvania has 32,700 Fire Watchers and thousands of surplus Air Raid Wardens to form the nucleus of the Fire Guard unit. The new unit will be part of the Warden organization, headed by Fire Guard brigade leaders who will serve under Sector Wardens.



Haakon Lie

## NORWEGIAN WILL SPEAK IN STATE

A busy speaking schedule has been arranged by the SCD Speakers Bureau for Haakon Lie, secretary of the Norwegian Federation of Labor, who escaped from Occupied Norway and is now touring this country.

Lie will come here from Minnesota next week. His tentative schedule includes: **Reading**, businessmen's luncheon, July 27; **Allentown**, businessmen's luncheon, July 28; **Harrisburg**, businessmen's luncheon, July



Scene in Governor's Office June 30 as citation was presented by Governor Martin to Warren R. Roberts for services as SCD Salvage Chairman. Left to right are: Dr. Hutchison, SCD Director; Blanchard Randall, Jr., WPB Regional Conservation Manager; Mrs. Worthington Scranton, SCD Commander of War Services; Mr. Roberts; Governor Martin; Richard P. Hendren, WPB; Colley S. Baker, SCD Salvage Secretary; Godfrey Wetterlow, WPB; J. Widman Bertch, WPB Deputy Salvage Director; and Ritchie Lawrie, WPB District Manager.

## Scrap Does Double Duty

Not only the nation but the community itself has benefited from scrap donations in **North Belle Vernon**, Allegheny County.

Money from scrap sales has been used to set up and equip an Emergency Room with six beds and two operating tables in the basement of a local school.

"We are prepared to take care of most any kind of an emergency case," said Burgess James A. Miller, chairman of the Council of Defense. "During an alert, this room is

manned by at least one physician, a nurse, and the necessary assistants."

Because the town is not very large, a little over 3,000 in population, the Control Center is located in Burgess Miller's home.

"My wife and I have always made it a point to be on duty, one of us being home at all times," Miller reported. "This requires some sacrifice, but if it will help win the war we are willing."

### HONOR SALVAGE HEADS

Certificates of merit were presented by the SCD and the WPB to the following County Salvage Chairmen at War Service conferences this month in Regions 7 and 8:

Dr. L. N. Blose, Allegheny; C. E. Spang, Butler; Harry C. Isabel, Fayette; Earl C. Kurtz, Washington; Joseph G. MacMillan, Clarion; J. George Heckman, Crawford; Leroy G. Straessley, Elk; Roy T. McDonald, Erie; C. E. Ellis, Forest; Robert P. Haggood, McKean (posthumously); R. S. Arthur, Mercer; W. T. Corbett, Warren.

A similar certificate was presented to O. H. Benson, Adams County, who resigned upon moving from the county.

29; **Philadelphia**, evening meeting at Town Hall, July 29; **Johnstown**, open meeting, Aug. 4; **Ford City**, Foremen's Club, Aug. 5.

Other engagements are pending in **Somerset**, **Carlisle**, **Corry**, **Erie** and **Uniontown**. His appearances were made possible by the Norwegian Embassy.

### GOVERNOR INSPECTS YORK CONTROL CENTER

Governor Martin, who is chairman of the SCD, complimented staff members of the **York Control Center** when he paid them a surprise visit July 14 after speaking at a Maritime Award ceremony honoring the Martin-Parry Corp.

"You have a very fine setup here," he told Col. William H. Beckner, York CDC Commander. "It is one of the most complete in the State. You are to be congratulated."

### WATER IS STORED

Ten thousand gallons of water is stored in 55-gallon drums at various points in Sector 6, Zone 44, **Philadelphia**. The water, placed by Civilian Defense volunteers, is for emergency use.

## 15 WERS LICENSES GRANTED IN STATE

Federal licenses for War Emergency Radio Service have been issued to 15 Councils of Defense in Pennsylvania, and seven other Councils have made application.

Those granted licenses, according to Lt. D. E. Wagner, Communications Officer of the SCD, are: **Allentown**, **Ashland**, **Bethlehem**, **Connellsville**, **Ellwood City**, **Erie**, **Haverford Twp.**, **Lower Merion Twp.**, **Marple Twp.**, **Philadelphia**, **Rochester**, **Warren County**, **Midland**, **Danville**, **Reading**.

Other Councils awaiting licenses are: **Altoona**, **Johnstown**, **Lemoyne**, **Mercer County**, **Pittsburgh**, **Spring City**, and **York**.

Meanwhile, the Federal Communications Commission has broadened the scope of WERS to permit its use not only in time of enemy action but also "during emergencies endangering life, public safety, or important property."

### OCD RADIO SERIES

A half-hour OCD radio program entitled "Not For Glory" is now being presented every Saturday at 5 P.M. over an NBC coast-to-coast network.

Each program dramatizes an actual story of real people in some community who have done an outstanding job in Civilian Defense. At the end of each broadcast, OCD Director Landis presents a citation to the community.



## CONSUMER VIOLATIONS REPORTED BY COUNTIES

Reports on "black market" activities have been received by Mrs. Conway Zirkle, SCD Consumer Chairman, from more than 15 counties, and they indicate that consumer violations are common throughout the State.

"The principal infraction by consumers is the mis-use of ration stamps," said Mrs. Zirkle. "Violations on the part of sellers and illicit dealers appear to be confined largely to big centers of population."

Mrs. Zirkle has asked county Consumer Committees to submit reports on local black markets so that a true picture can be obtained of conditions in the State.

## CENSORS BAR RADIO BLACKOUT PRACTICE

A ruling by the Office of Censorship resulted in cancellation of Pennsylvania's pre-announced educational practice blackout in which a "play-by-play" explanation of the air raid signals was to be broadcast by 45 radio stations.

The drill, scheduled for July 8, had been officially approved by the Army. However, the Office of Censorship intervened, holding that radio participation would tend to create confusion in that it might cause people to depend on radio in a real air raid, when radio stations would be off the air.

## RALLY DRAWS 3,000

An outdoor Block Leaders' Rally sponsored by Reading-Berks County Council of Defense attracted 3,000 persons to City Park, Reading, on July 4. Highlight of the program, which was planned by Mrs. Harold C. Osman, was a pageant depicting the United Nations.



Work and play have been skillfully combined at Philadelphia's Sixth Division Control Center in Germantown, as shown in pictures above. Outdoor card tables and barbecue oven in top view, together with billiard table and club room, help to keep more than 200 volunteers happy in idle moments. Bottom view shows efficient layout of the Control Center itself. The commander is Judge Harry S. McDevitt, who also is Executive Director of the city's Council of Defense.

## SCHEDULE FOR DRILLS

Control Center drills in Pennsylvania were placed on a regular semi-monthly basis, beginning July 7. The drills will be held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

## FIVE MORE COUNTIES SEND SERVICE TOTALS

Reports from five counties which had not previously submitted any figures on Civilian War Service volunteers helped to boost the State-wide enrollment in this branch to 835,151 on July 1.

Totals for the five counties are: **Armstrong** 3198, **Erie** 13,471, **Monroe** 7781, **Perry** 439, and **Sullivan** 279. There still are 26 counties which have not submitted War Service reports.

The July 1 membership in the Citizens Defense Corps totalled

## SERVICE BARS DUE

Instructions for award of OCD Service Bars in Pennsylvania have been prepared by the SCD and will be sent out along with a sample application form as soon as a supply of Service Bars is received, probably late this week.

Pennsylvania's order for Service Bars was placed with the OCD in May and the supplies were reported shipped this week. Volunteers who have served 500 or more hours will be eligible for the awards.

618,638, giving Pennsylvania an over-all total of 1,453,789 volunteers in all phases of Civilian Defense.

## Correct Failures In Pre-Dawn Test

Slip-ups which resulted in failure of 20 or more counties to participate in Pennsylvania's June 22 pre-dawn practice blackout have been investigated and steps taken to prevent any recurrence.

The blackout, lasting from 4:30 to 4:59 A.M., was the first ordered over the Army "black box" warning system and also the first called at an hour when most people are asleep.

Both of these innovations contributed to the failures. In some cases, the black box signals were mistaken for communications tests, in other cases not enough volunteers were on duty to fan out the warnings, and in still other instances the public alarms were not in readiness to function.

Because of the "weak spots" which were revealed, Col. Lynn G. Adams, SCD Chief of Protective Services, declared the test was extremely valuable. "Such weaknesses were anticipated," he said, "and they can now be corrected."

Regional Representatives of the SCD investigated each of the failures and assisted in correcting the faults.

## CANNING PROGRAM IS SPEEDED

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cording to population, and will devote full time to the work.

## Expect Shipment

Because of priorities, no "retorts" are yet available for civilians, but the SCD expects to receive a small shipment soon for allocation in the state. The retorts will process 33 quarts at a time and are superior to current pressure cookers, which handle only 7 quarts.

Great emphasis is being placed on community dehydrators. A model that will process up to 8 bushels daily is described in a new SCD pamphlet. It can be built by men or high school boys.

"The important thing is to get kitchens started in each community," said a State memorandum sent to local chairmen. "Any appropriate facilities that are at hand should be used."

"A Conservation Kitchen with a dehydrator, all small pressure equipment which can be borrowed, large kettles for open-kettle processing of fruits and acid vegetables, and one or two retorts will be able to process many bushels of food which would otherwise go to waste in the late summer and early fall."